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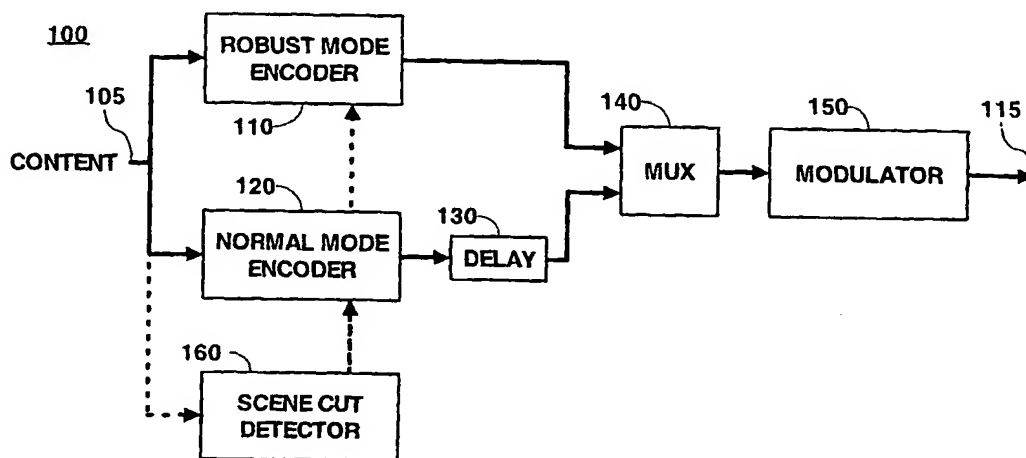
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **ROBUST MODE STAGGERCASTING WITH ADJUSTABLE DELAY OFFSET**



**Transmitter**

(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for staggercasting includes encoding a first signal representing content having a time duration and a second signal also representing that content. A time delay period is specified for the time duration of the content. A composite signal, comprising the first and second encoded signals, is generated. In the composite signal the first encoded signal is delayed with respect to the second encoded signal by the time delay period for the time duration of the content. If an error is detected in the composite signal, then the received second encoded signal is decoded to produce the content, otherwise the delayed received first encoded signal is decoded to produce the content.



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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/01620

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H04N 7/12  
US CL : 375/240.01

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 375/240.01-240.03, 240.1, 240.12-240.16, 240.26, 240.28; 348/384.1, 385.1, 700; 725/74, 86, 90, 94, 100

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
Please See Continuation Sheet

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,304,609 B1 (STEPHENS et al) 16 October 2001 (16.10.2001), figure 2; figure 5, figure 7, column 4, lines 53-60, column 8, lines 1-10, column 11, lines 18-26, column 13, lines 60-67, column 14, lines 1-67.	1-2, 6-8, 11-12, 16
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Y		3-5, 9-10, 13-15, 17-19
Y	US 2002/0047902 A1 (THOMAS et al) 25 April 2002 (25.04.2002), figure 8, paragraph 0062-0065, paragraph 0115, paragraph 0149.	3-5, 9-10, 13-15, 17-19
X,P	US 6,535,717 B1 (MATSUSHIMA et al) 18 March 2003 (18.03.2003), figures 3-6, column 8, lines 56-67, column 9, lines 1-67, column 10, lines 58-67, column 11, lines 36-61	1-2, 6-8, 11-12, 16

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

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**Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:**

USPAT, USPGPUB, EPO, JPO

search terms: encode, decode, multiplex, delay, PMT, PSIP,